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72 Rural District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,
Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

Together with the Summary of work of
the Sanitary Inspectors.

COCKERMOUTH ;
"TIMES" PRINTING WORKS,
1941

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Cockermouth Rural District Council.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cockermouth Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1940, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received July, 1941. Under instructions, considerable curtailment has again been effected.

There has been no lessening in the amount of extra work involved as a result of measures relating to the war and no slackening in the effort to cope with it; members and officials of the Council and other workers have continued to take infinite pains to overcome each difficulty as it has arisen.

My thanks are due to those Observers of Rainfall in the district, shown on page 5, for their courtesy in supplying their records.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 161,312 (inclusive of area covered by water).

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1940)
(see Page 6) 19,060.

Number of inhabited houses (end 1940) according to Rate
Books, 4,951.

Rateable Value £82,556.

Sum represented by Penny Rate:—Gross, £344.

Estimated product of a Penny Rate, £325.

.....

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live	Legitimate	262	131	131	Birth Rate (R.G.)
Births	Illegitimate	12	5	7	14.3
Still Births	...	9	2	7	Rate per 1,000
Total (live and still) births 31.8					
		Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	...	238	129	109	Crude Death Rate

(R.G.) 12.4 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

Maternal Mortality:—

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1	3.5
Other puerperal causes	1	3.5
Total ...	2	7.06

Infantile Mortality:—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 20

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births (approximately) 72

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 75

Illegitimate ,, Illegitimate ,, Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 0

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 0

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 1

Deaths from Cancer 22

Table showing RAINFALL in inches, in 1940, compiled from observers in various parts of the district.

Observation Station ...	Dean School	Winscales House	At Grothwaite about 440 yards from the Cockernouth Rural District boundary	Spring Bank, Braithwaite	Higham	Hye Product Works, Flimby, about a mile from Cookernouth R.D. Boundary.	Dale Hood Hall, Thirlmere
Observer ...	H. Irwin, Esq.	Miss E. W. Trench.	T. Wilson, Esq.	J. Smith Hill, Esq.	Miss Fisher.	T Stokoe, Esq.	W.F. H. Greber Esq., Engineer to Manchester Corporation Water Works
Diameter of Rain Gauge Funnel	5 inches	5 in.	5 in.	8 in.	5 in.	2.75 in.	5 in.
Height of gauge above ground	11 in.	1 ft. 6 in.	1 ft.	1 ft.	9 in.	4 ft. 6 in.	1 ft.
Height of gauge above sea level	365 ft.	440 ft.	254 ft.	280 ft.	500 ft.	50 ft.	620 ft.
1940.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January	1'63	2'39	2'04	1'90	1'96	3'03	1'63
February	1'71	'96	1'76	1'61	'85	1'05	3'38
March	4'95	5'35	5'76	7'10	5'82	10'00	9'53
April	2'93	1'36	2'57	3'12	1'61	2'91	4'52
May	1'68	1'49	1'23	1'92	1'65	1'82	2'07
June	1'46	'95	'96	1'49	1'18	1'39	'93
July	4'93	4'16	6'58	7'01	5'25	4'95	9'11
August	2'24	2'05	3'07	3'54	2'91	3'00	3'77
September	4'32	3'84	5'91	7'40	5'43		7'12
October	4'59	3'77	6'82	7'47	4'00		9'53
November	4'94	3'67	7'75	8'09	4'43		11'75
December	5'09	4'13	6'24	7'41	5'15		9'66
Totals	40'47	34'12	50'69	58'06	40'24		73'00
Average prev. 5 yrs 1935-39 (incl)	45.40	38'32	51'16 (Av. 38 yrs —56'85)		45'80		93'13 (Av. 64 yrs. 81.56)

Cockermouth Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, for the year 1940.

The area of the district in statute acres is 161,312 (approximately 4,700 of which are covered by inland water).

POPULATION.

Population exposed to Risk.—(Figures provided by the Registrar General)—

For Birth Rates: The estimated resident population including non-civilians as at the middle of the year was 19,060. (The 1939 figure was 17,630).

For General Death Rates and incidence of notifiable disease: A population estimate constructed so as to allow for the exclusion of non-civilians and for the different areal assignment of deaths, was given also as 19,060.

For Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates: Special figures are given—shown under Live Births on Page 8 —on which the calculations are based.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Cockermouth Rural District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 689, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 28 of the population, as compared with 1 in 18 for 1939.

Eighteen persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of approximately 1 in 1,059 of the population. 1939—16 persons, and 1 in 1,128 of population).

The numbers for 1940 are detailed as follows:—

Registration Sub-District	Out-door Ordinary	Relief Unemployed	Indoor Relief
Cockermouth ...	91	67	2
Maryport ...	100	78	3
Workington ...	65	90	6
Keswick ...	26	—	6
Aspatria ...	91	86	1
	—	—	—
	368	321	18

I am indebted to Mr. J. T. Gill, Clerk to the Guardians Committee, for the above figures.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.—The total number of live births registered in and belonging to the district in 1940 was 274 (136 males and 138 females). Of these 12 (5 males and 7 females) were illegitimate. The net live birth rate is accordingly 14.3 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 14.1 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Birth Rates, 1940—Cumberland	15.6
Rural Districts of Cumberland	15.1
Urban Districts of Cumberland	13.4
England and Wales	14.6
Cockermouth Rural District	14.3

The percentage of illegitimate live births is approximately 4.3 as compared with 4.8 in 1939.

Still Births.—9 still births (8 legitimate and 1 illegitimate) were also registered, giving a still birth rate of 0.47 per 1000 of the population as compared with 0.45 for 1939. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.55).

The still birth rate per 1000 total live and still births was 31.8 as compared with 31.1 for 1939.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths, registered as belonging to the district was 238 (129 males and 109 females), i.e., after correcting for non-residents dying within the district and for those persons whose usual residence was within the district dying outside the district. This gives a crude death rate of 12.4 per 1000 of the population as compared with 12.1 for the previous year.

The adjusting factor, or Areal Comparability Factor, given by the Registrar General was 1.00. The adjusted death rate for Cockermouth Rural District was therefore the same as the crude as compared with 11.6 for 1939.

Comparisons of crude and adjusted death rates are shewn below:—

	Crude	Adjusted
Death Rates, 1940—Cumberland	15.2	14.8
Rural Districts of Cumberland	14.7	13.9
Urban Districts of Cumberland	16.0	16.3
England and Wales	14.3	—
Cockermouth Rural District	12.4	12.4

(For causes of death during the year see table on page 8.)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 20 deaths of infants under one year of age, which give an Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 72 per 1000 births as compared with 48 for the preceding year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1940

Causes of Death.				Males	Females
All Causes				129	109
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever				
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever				
3.	Scarlet Fever				
4.	Whooping-cough				
5.	Diphtheria				
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			2	3
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis			2	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases				
9.	Influenza			8	3
10.	Measles				
11.	Ac: Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis				
12.	Ac: inf: encephalitis				1
13.	Cancer of b: cav: and oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)			1	1
14.	„ stomach and duodenum			5	5
15.	„ breast				
16.	„ all other sites			7	3
17.	Diabetes			1	2
18.	Intra-cran. vasc: lesions			7	16
19.	Heart Dis:			33	27
20.	Other Dis: of circulatory system			2	1
21.	Bronchitis			8	10
22.	Pneumonia (all forms)			11	6
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases			5	2
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum				
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years			1	
26.	Appendicitis			1	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases				3
28.	Nephritis			4	2
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion: sepsis				1
30.	Other Maternal Causes				1
31.	Premature Birth			2	2
32.	Congen: malform: birth inj: infant dis.			5	2
33.	Suicide				
34.	Road Traffic acc:			4	
35.	Other violent causes			5	2
36.	All other causes			15	14
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total ...				13	7
Legitimate				13	7
Illegitimate				—	—

				For 1 M., etc.		For B. Rate	
				M	F	M	F
LIVE BIRTHS	}	Total ... ..	...	137	142	136	138
		Legitimate ... ..	...	132	135	131	131
		Illegitimate ... ..	...	5	7	5	7
STILL BIRTHS	}	Total ... ..	...			2	7
		Legitimate ... ..	...			2	6
		Illegitimate ... ..	...			—	1

POPULATION (for Births and Deaths), 1940—R.G.—(see p. 6)

(a) for B.R.	...	
(b) for D.R.'s and incidence of notifiable diseases	...	19,060

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR

Net Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
Bronchitis						4				4
Broncho-pneumonia ..							1	1	1	3
Pulmonary Atelectasis ...	1				1					1
Premature Birth	5				5					5
Melæna Neonatorum ...	2				2					2
Icterus Neonatorum ...	2				2					2
Oedema Neonatorum ...	1				1					1
Acc. Asphyx. due to vom. material								1		1
Infant : Ecz. & toxic myocardi.									1	1
All Causes (certified) ..	11				11	4	1	2	2	20

It will be noticed that, at any rate, 11 of the infants died before reaching the age of one week.

Four of the premature birth deaths occurred under 12 hours.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1940—

Cumberland	...	73
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	71
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	75
England and Wales	...	55
Cockermouth Rural District	...	71.6

No death occurred among illegitimate infants, so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate is nil per 1000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 75 per 1000 legitimate births. These rates were respectively nil and 50 for the previous year.

(For Infant Mortality Table see page 9).

SENILE DEATH RATE.

125 persons (66 males and 59 females) had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 45.6 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 61.6 for 1939.

27 (12m 15f)	persons died between the ages of	65 and 70 years
35 (16m 19f)	" "	70 and 75 years
28 (18m 10f)	" "	75 and 80 years
21 (13m 8f)	" "	80 and 85 years
11 (5m 6f)	" "	85 and 90 years
3 (2m 1f)	" died at ages of 90," 90 (m) and 91 (f) years	

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were 10 inquests (6 of which were held outside the district). An inquest within the district was also held in respect of 2 non-residents. Two Coroner's Certificates were received of cases where post mortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

Thirteen deaths were uncertified (1939—6).

Violence.—With reference to the Violence (all forms) death-rate of 0.57 for Cockermouth Rural District I give below a table showing the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accidents, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1000 of the population:—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Accidents		Other Violence excl'g Road Traffic Acc.		Total Violence	
	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939
Deaths	nil	nil	4	2	7	9	11	11
% of all causes	nil	nil	1.68	.91	2.94	4.109	4.62	5.02
D.R. per 1000	nil	nil	.209	.110	.36	.49	.577	.609

The deaths from Violence in 1940 include 2 from occupational accidents (1 quarry, 1 pit), 2 drowning, 4 road accidents and 3 other conditions.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 22 cases, as follows:—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females
Alimentary	Stomach	4	5
	Bowel	2	1
	Rectum		1
	Oesophagus		1
Glandular	Cervical Glands	1	
	Prostate	2	
	Liver	1	
Respiratory	Lung	1	
Other	Tongue	1	
	Abdomen (Lympho-Sarcoma	1	
Reproductive	Uterus		1

3	of the deaths	(2m 1f)	occurred among persons between	40	and 50	years of age
2	"	(1m 1f)	"	"	50 and 60	"
5	"	(2m 3f)	"	"	60 and 70	"
7	"	(4m 3f)	"	"	70 and 80	"
5	"	(4m 1f)	"	"	80 and 90	"

The 22 deaths correspond to a death rate of 1.15 per 1000 of the population as compared with 23 deaths and a death rate of 1.27 in 1939. Approximately out of every 11 deaths of persons in this district 1 was due to cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also page 22 (bottom of)

There were 8 deaths due to Tuberculosis:—

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory System	2	3	5
Other Forms	2	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
All cases	4	4	8

Four of the deaths (2 males, 2 females, respectively) were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of .41 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .32 for 1939.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death Rate was .26 per 1000 of the population, as compared with last year's figure of .22.

.....

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. Two full-time Sanitary Inspectors:—
 - (i.) Senior S.I.—Mr. George Nelson, who holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and also a special Certificate of the London City Guilds for Sanitation and Plumbing.
 - (ii) Additional S.I.—Mr. Edgar Dixon, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board, and a Building Construction Certificate of the Northern Counties Technical Examination Council.
3. Mr. Denys Hinde is employed as a clerk and assistant and he is training to become a Sanitary Inspector.

The work of the Council's Engineering Staff (Sanitary and Water) under Mr. A. E. Simpson, A.M.I.C.E., is to some extent connected with this department. [REDACTED]

Some part-time clerical assistance was provided.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1940:—

Material		Test applied for—	Result :	
			Pos.	Neg
Throat or nose swabs	...	Diphtheria	0	9
	...	Haemolytic Streptococci	6	1
Sputum	...	Tuberculosis	2	9
Blood	...	Typhoid and para-Typhoid	1	2

Other particulars under Provision of Health services remain as detailed in my 1930 and subsequent reports.

.....

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Generally speaking this district is well covered with public water mains. There are only a few exceptions, e.g. Mockerkin—but for the war it is likely a supply would have been provided for this hamlet by connexion to the Dean-Pardshaw main.

Crummock Scheme.—With reference to my statement and comments in my 1938 Report (q.v.) regarding shortage of water on the Crummock Scheme there have been many complaints of serious shortage at various periods since then. Further efforts have been made to improve the supply by laying an additional supply main to Greysouthen reservoir—see below.

Extensions of Water Mains during the year:—

Additional supply main to Greysouthen reservoir—92 lin. yds. of 3in. "Everite" pipe.

Extension from Gilcrux to Ellen Hall Farm—105 lin. yds. of 1in. galvanised iron pipe.

Renewal of Water Mains and enlargements:—

253 lin. yds. of 3in. "Everite" pipes between Ellerkeld and the Tannery at Stainburn; enlarged from 2in.

Construction of additional settlement tank and enlargement of filter bed at Bassenthwaite.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The systems of Drainage and Sewerage throughout the district remain as detailed in my 1925 and subsequent reports.

Extensions of Main Sewers.—The following extensions were carried out during 1940:—

To Birkett and Clough's Housing Sites at Portinscale—115 lin yds. of 6in. sewer.

To Pattinson's bungalow at Plumbland—33 lin. yds. of 6in sewer.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

In the villages where there are public sewers or suitable private schemes, the drainage of 66 houses has been connected and 51 privies have been converted to the Water-Carriage system during the year.

In several villages or hamlets there is a number of instances where provision of water closets and proper drainage is still outstanding. Facilities have been provided by way of public sewers and outfall works in order that insanitary conditions may be remedied and modern drainage and sanitary conveniences installed. Unfortunately, owing to the war, workmen and material are difficult to obtain, but as soon as these difficulties are removed compulsory measures should be taken where necessary in the interests of the general health and well-being of the community.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The removal of ashes and house refuse and the cleansing of privy middens are contracted for by the Council in the parishes shown in the table below, in which is given the number of houses involved and the contractual cost (including provision and upkeep of tips, wheeling out, etc., and relating to the financial year ending 31st March, 1941).

From the table it will be observed the total number of houses covered by these contracts is approximately 3,784, and the total cost for the year £1,097 1s 1d. (Average cost per house was approximately 6s per annum or about 1½d per week).

Parish (or part)	Approx. No. of Houses.	Total Cost		
		£	s	d
Allerby & Oughterside	170	49	0	1
Above Derwent	309	162	17	1
Borrowdale	124	67	8	7
Brigham (and Broughton Cross)	197	34	9	4
Broughton	332	51	3	4
Broughton Moor	185	37	0	7
*Blinderake (from 1st Jan, '40)	54	41	3	1
Crosscanonby	216	40	9	3
Camerton	54	20	19	7
Dearham	480	119	18	2
*Eaglesfield (from 1st Nov, '40)	51	8	0	3
Embleton	47	24	9	6
*Gilerux (from 1st Aug, '40)	80	25	4	3
Greysouthen	131	37	10	0
Great Clifton	284	69	2	4
Little Clifton and Bridgefoot	107	26	10	0
Lorton	89	38	10	6
Papcastle	86	52	12	6
*Plumbland (from 1st June, '40)	117	44	4	4
Seaton	526	63	18	0
Setmurthy	21	6	1	11
Underskiddaw	91	51	12	0
Winscales (Furnace Row)	17	18	14	6
Wythop	16	6	1	11
	3784	£1097	1	1

* added during 1940

A system of house refuse removal by private contract is still arranged by householders in Bassenthwaite Village.

SCHOOLS.

SANITARY CONDITION AND WATER SUPPLY.

A full list of public elementary schools, together with details of water supplies and sanitary arrangements, was given in my 1930 report and any alterations have been reflected in subsequent annual reports.

Gilerux.—New drainage and sanitary arrangements at this school were carried out in the early part of 1940.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The inclusive summary of work done by the two Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. George Nelson and Mr. Edgar Dixon, in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, will be found at the end of this report (commencing on page 26 and epitomises the vast amount of routine work done during the year.

It is surprising that so much work of a routine character was carried out when we think of the extra duties and responsibilities in connection with the war.

I again record my appreciation of the friendly co-operation of the Council's staff as a whole and, in particular, that of the two Sanitary Inspectors, and I am also indebted to Mr. Nelson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable assistance in compiling this report. (Mr. Nelson, I would add, is also Chief Billeting Officer).

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There were 36 shops on the register and 34 inspections made.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1940 :—

Premises.	Number	Inspec- tions.	Defects Found	Written Notices.	Defects Remedied	Prose- cutions
Factories with mechanical power	18	21	2	2	2	—
Factories without do	50	15	1	1	1	—
Other Premises under Act						
Totals	68	36	3	3	3	—

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Work in connection with the above Act has been carried out throughout the year by the Public Health Department in co-operation with the County Council, as usual. Refuse tips and sewerage works under the Council's control have been periodically dosed with suitable poison, while in addition advice has been given and poison supplied to owners of private premises where the vermin existed.

During National Rat Weeks special posters are exhibited in various parts of the district, drawing attention to the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act and to the fact that poison for the destruction of the vermin can be obtained free of charge at the health department office of this Council.

.....

Housing.

PLANS PASSED—

- (a) For new dwelling-houses 24.
 - (b) Enlargements or renovations of dwelling houses 11.
 - (c) Other buildings (including 1 dairy cowshed) 12.
- 41 new houses were completed in this district during the year:
- (a) 22 built by the North-Eastern Housing Association for slum clearance and relief of overcrowding; and
 - (b) 19 built by private enterprise.

Further progress has been made with the Council's housing programme regarding slum clearance and relief of overcrowding.

By arrangement with the North-Eastern Housing Association 22 houses were completed during 1940 (and 2 early in 1941) at Seaton—14 for slum clearance and 10 for relief of overcrowding.

HOUSING (Rural Workers) ACT, 1926.

On account of the war work and grants under this Act have been restricted. Renovation of 9 dwelling-houses was completed under this Act during 1940; this work had been commenced with during 1939.

Housing Appendix.

in accordance with Circular 1961 Ministry of Health, 16th Feb., 1940

STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	59
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	97
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	18

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 14

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:--

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—		
(a) By owners		0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...		0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		17
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—		
(a) By owners		17
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made		0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders		2
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made		1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit		0

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part iv., —Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	69
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein	...	74
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	474
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year		6
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year		19
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	121
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowded conditions—		

In regard to the 19 cases (4, (c) (i) above) of overcrowding relieved during the year:—

18 have been rehoused in Council houses and
1 has found other accommodation, privately.

Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 601 registered dairy premises and of this number the occupiers may be classified as follows: 330 producers and wholesalers of milk, 108 producers and retailers, 7 retail purveyors and 156 producers and butter-makers.

Approximately 301 inspections were carried out.

9 registered dairy premises were improved under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, these include 1 new dairy cowshed. There is still a number of dairy premises throughout the district which do not comply, structurally, with the requirements of the Order, and in many instances they lack the provision of a proper separate cooler house.

In this district 48 producers held licences for the production of milk under "Special Designations" as follows:—

11 Tuberculin Tested. 37 Accredited.

The Milk Marketing Board and the Nestle and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. continue to collect a considerable quantity of milk daily from this district and more butter-makers are changing over to this method of disposal of their milk.

This Council has continued to co-operate with the County Council in the scheme of the latter for general milk-sampling, including Designated, School, and Ungraded Milk.

The total number of samples taken in this district by the Council's Sanitary officers was 203, of which 90 (or 44.3 per cent) were unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint—vide table below. 33 of the unsatisfactory samples were border-line cases.

Result of the Bacteriological examinations of Milk Samples, 1940:—

Designation.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Totals.
T.T.	16	9	25
Accredited	80	43	123
Ungraded	17	38	55
Totals	113	90	203

NOTE.—In the above table are included 46 School Milk samples, 25 of which come in the unsatisfactory group.

Tubercle bacilli were reported in seven group samples, three of which were taken in this district; in three instances a cow found to be affected was slaughtered; in the other instances after further investigation the source of the infection could not be traced and check samples proved negative.

Mr. John Cameron, Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, has kindly supplied me with the following figures relating to work done under the Authority:—

Particulars of Animals Slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925, from premises registered in the Cockermouth Rural District, during the year 1940		
Total number of Animals Slaughtered	...	20
Cows in Milk	...	16
Other Cows or Heifers	...	4
Types of Disease found at Post-mortem—		
Tuberculosis of Udder		6
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	...	0
Tuberculosis with chronic cough and showing definite clinical signs	...	14

The co-operation of, and joint inspections with, the veterinary Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continued harmonious and helpful in matters relating to dairy work and milk production.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Since January, 1940, all slaughtering in private slaughter-houses was suspended by the Ministry of Food as a war-time measure and all slaughtering is being carried on in regional slaughter-houses.

Private slaughter houses in the district have therefore only been used as meat stores and for making-up purposes, the butchers receiving their supplies of meat from Maryport and Workington abattoirs.

By arrangement with the Maryport Urban District Council regular weekly assistance has been rendered in the work of meat inspection at the Maryport Abattoir by the appropriate officials of this (C.R.D.) Council.

In addition 137 inspections have been made of meat stores in the district.

.....

Bakehouses.—There remain 12 registered bakehouses in the district, 6 of which are domestic. There were no serious defects found during the year.

.....

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1940 in the Cockermonth Rural District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 311. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (vide post) the number=53. (The figure for 1939 was 47).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1940.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases notified 1940 admitted to hospital	Deaths
Small-pox ...	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	3	3	0
Scarlet Fever ...	14	8	0
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0	0
Pneumonia (all forms)	15	3	3
Erysipelas ...	5	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	1	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0
Measles	209	0	0
Whooping Cough ..	49	0	0
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary { Males	5	3 (San.)	1
{ Females	5	2 "	2
{ Total	10	5 "	3
Non-Pulmonary { Males	1	0 (Hosp.)	0
{ Females	3	1 "	0
{ Total	4	1 "	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1940.

Disease	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May.	J'ne	July	Aug	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Diphtheria		2				1							3
Scarlet Fever	2	1			2			4	2	1	1	1	14
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	6	1				1			1	2	1	15
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1									5
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis				1									1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum					1								1
Measles	43	32	27	22	5	14	9	19	6	29	3		209
Whooping Cough	10	3	2	11	4	2	3		3	1	6	4	49
Tuberculosis :													
Pulmonary			2	1	1	1		2		2	1		10
Other Forms		1				1					1	1	4

The following table gives the age incidence of each disease notified during the year.

[illegible]

From notifications received it is deduced that 1 in every 360 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chickenpox, Measles and Whooping Cough excluded) and Tuberculosis Regulations. (In 1939 the figures were 1 in 287).

(Vide Post re Measles and Whooping Cough)

There were only 3 cases of Diphtheria, all occurring in Dovenby Colony. They were removed to Hospital and recovery ensued.

The case rate of Diphtheria per 1000 of the population was therefore .15 as compared with .11 for 1939. (The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 1.16).

The Diphtheria death rate per 1000 of the population was nil—the same as for 1939. The rate (1940) for England and Wales was .06.

Fourteen cases of Scarlet Fever were notified (1939—24), the disease occurring in 8 parishes—vide table page 25—and was mainly mild in type. Eight were removed to Hospital. No death occurred, so that the death rate from Scarlet Fever was nil.

The case rate of Scarlet Fever per 1000 of the population was therefore, .73 as compared with 1.32 for 1939. (The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 1.63, and death rate .00).

One case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis was notified—that of an adult male in Seaton; he was removed to Hospital and eventually recovered.

Fifteen cases of Pneumonia were notified, 3 of which died. The deaths from this disease (all forms) numbered 17.

Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fever, Encephalitis Lethargica, Acute Poliomyelitis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—No notifications. (For England and Wales the case rate and death rate from Typhoid and Para-Typhoid were, respectively, .07 and .00).

No notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was received. N.B.—This term includes Puerperal Fever).

The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population. When calculated on this basis and as no notifications were received, the rate was nil per 1000 total births (i.e. live and still births), as compared with 3.8 in 1939. The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 11.96.

There were 2 maternal deaths, so that the Maternal Mortality (all causes) rate was therefore 7.06 per 1000 total (live and still) births as compared with 3.8 in 1939. The rate (1940) for England and Wales was 2.16 (all causes).

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 10 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (5 males and 5 females) and 4 of Other Forms of Tuberculosis (1 male and 3 females) were notified. Five pulmonary cases (3 males and 2 females) notified during the year were admitted to Sanatorium, 1 non-pulmonary (female) was admitted to Orthopaedic Hospital, while 3 died (1 male, 2 females, pulmonary. One previously notified Pulmonary male was re-admitted to Sanatorium.

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 11.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases)—

Age		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
5—10	...	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
25—35	...	2	2	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—45	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
55—65	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	5	5	1	3	2	3	2	1

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1940 was as follows:—

		Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	...	21	16	37
Non-pulmonary	...	17	16	33
		—	—	—
All cases		38	32	70

.....

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Disease.—Influenza was prevalent in the district, mainly in the first quarter of the year. Eleven deaths were attributed to this disease—equivalent to a death rate of .57 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .16 (3 deaths) for 1939. The rate for England (1940) and Wales was 0.32.

Only small scattered outbreaks of Mumps were recorded

.....

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—Measles was epidemic in a big majority of parishes and notifications were received from the beginning of many parishes were effected with Whooping Cough though notifications were not so numerous (total, 49).

The case rates of Measles and Whooping Cough (as per notifications) were, respectively, 10.96 and 2.57 per 100 of the population, the year right up to November (total notifications 209), whilst as compared with 10.24 and 1.34 for all England and Wales.

No death occurred from either disease, the death rates being therefore, nil, as compared with 0.02 for each disease in England and Wales.

.....

Hospital accommodation as provided by the West Cumberland Joint Hospital Board for infectious diseases remains as in the preceding year. It is again possible for me to say that up to the present we have been fortunate in that the majority of cases requiring admission to hospital have been so dealt with—i.e. of the type of case that in the past has customarily been removed to hospital. (The Board has had the matter under consideration and development is expected).

.....

SCHOOL CLOSURES.

During 1940 fourteen public elementary schools in the Cocker-mouth Rural District were closed for varying periods:—Brigham, Dovenby, Braithwaite, Greysouthen, Dean, Embleton, Gilcrux, and St. John's-in-the-Vale on account of Measles; Loweswater, for German Measles; Broughton Moor Infants, Crosby, Paddle, and Bothel, for Influenza; and Loweswater again, for Whooping Cough and Influenza.

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Typhoid Fever in the various parishes:—

1940.	Parish.	Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever.	
	Above Derwent	—	...	—	...	—
	Allerby and Oughterside	—	...	—	...	—
	Bassenthwaite	—	...	3	...	—
	Bewaldeth, &c.	—	...	—	...	—
	Blinderake, incl. Isel Old Park and Sunderland	—	...	—	...	—
	Bothel and Threapland	—	...	—	...	—
	Bridekirk (incl. Dovenby and Tallantire) 3*	—	...	—	...	—
	Gt. and Lt. Broughton	—	...	—	...	—
	Broughton Moor	—	...	—	...	—
	Blindbothel incl. Mosser & Whinfell	—	...	—	...	—
	Borrowdale	—	...	1	...	—
	Brigham	—	...	—	...	—
	Buttermere incl. Brackenthwaite	—	...	—	...	—
	Camerton, incl. Ribton	—	...	—	...	—
	Great Clifton	—	...	—	...	—
	Little Clifton	—	...	—	...	—
	Crosscanonby	—	...	5	...	—
	Dearham	—	...	—	...	—
	Dean, incl. Eaglesfield &c.	—	...	—	...	—
	Embleton	—	...	1	...	—
	Gilcrux	—	...	—	...	—
	Greysouthen	—	...	—	...	—
	Lorton	—	...	1	...	—
	Loweswater and Mockerkin	—	...	—	...	—
	Papcastle	—	...	1	...	—
	Plumblond, &c.	—	...	—	...	—
	Seaton	—	...	—	...	—
	St. John's-in-the-Vale	—	...	1	...	—
	Setmurthy	—	...	—	...	—
	Underskiddaw, incl. Skiddaw	—	...	—	...	—
	Winscales	—	...	1	...	—
	Wythop	—	...	—	...	—
	Totals... ..	3		14		—

*Dovenby Hall Institution cases

Sanitary Inspectors' Summary for the year ending December 31st, 1940

.....

NUISANCES:—

Complaints received	35
Nuisances observed	173
Nuisances abated	105
Nuisances unabated or work in hand	68
Sanitary Conveniences repaired	15
Drains tested	11
New drains laid	14
New gully traps fixed	30
New chambers constructed	15
Septic tanks and filters constructed (private)	3
New water closets fixed	15
Houses Disinfested	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:—

Visits to infectious cases	23
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	4
Houses disinfected	17

WATER SUPPLIES:—

Houses visited with special reference to water supplies	17
Houses provided with supplies from new public mains.....	6
Old connections and service pipes renewed	63
Houses provided with new supplies (private) ..	1

HOUSING:—

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	42
Number of inspections made	60
Houses recorded under Consolidation Regulations	0
Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or in- jurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ...	1
Houses (not including the above) with structural or other defects	18
Houses, defects remedied	14
Representations for closing or demolition	1
Closing Orders served	1
Demolition Orders served	0
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	2
Cases of overcrowding relieved during year	18
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	17
No. of Visits made under the Public Health Acts	37
Number of houses with defects amounting to nuisances ...	17
„ „ (nuisances) abated	17

CAMPING:—

Licences issued under P.H.A. 1936 (Section 269), Camping Sites 3. Individual Moveable Dwellings o ..	3
Visits of Inspection	5

SEWERING :—

Inspections (including interviews with owners of properties) regarding the provision of new sanitary arrangements and drainage connexions	172
Private drains connected to public sewers	66
Privies converted to water carriage system	51
New water closets built	35
New gully traps fixed	102
New chambers constructed	46

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS :—

On the Register at the end of the year (Producers and Whole- salers 330 Producers and Retailers 108 Retail Purveyors 7, Producers and Butter-makers 156	601
Visits of inspection	301
Number of registered premises (including 1 new cowsheds) structurally improved	17
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Analysis (see table page 18)	203
(90 were unsatisfactory as to cleanliness).	

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION :—

Number of slaughter-houses on the Register— Now used as Meat Stores.....	15
Number of licensed Slaughtermen	30
Inspections made (including assistance at Maryport Abattoir)	201

FACTORIES (including Workshops and Bakehouses).

On the Register at the end of the year.....	68
Visits of inspection	57

SHOPS' ACT, 1934 :—

Registered premises	36
Visits of inspection	34

SCAVENGING :—

Foul ashpits reported and cleansed (private)	18
Loads of refuse removed by Public Scavengers	5369

NOTICES :—

Under the Public Health Acts (Intimatory)	72
Under the Public Health Acts (Statutory)	0
Under the Housing Acts (Intimatory)	65
Under the Housing Acts (Statutory)	5
Under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 (Intimatory)	247
Under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 (Statutory).....	0

GEORGE NELSON, M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary and Housing Inspector.

